

Practice Exercise 15

“Buckle up . . . or else!” may become the slogan of those who support safety belts. Studies have shown that most injuries and deaths resulting from accidents are caused when people are thrown out of or against the interior of the vehicle. Forty-five percent of those killed in auto accidents would have been saved if they had been wearing safety belts. Safety belts have been standard equipment on all automobiles sold in the United States for more than thirty years. Since long before that, safety-minded organizations have been advocating that motor vehicle drivers and passengers make it a habit to use safety belts whether they are driving across the country or across town. Millions of dollars worth of public service advertising has been donated by newspapers, magazines, radio, and television to remind motorists and passengers to “buckle up.”

1. Since most injuries are caused by being thrown out of or against the interior of the vehicle, you can conclude that
 - a. people are better off if they can leap out of a car.
 - b. people are better off if they are strapped in place.
 - c. safety belts themselves must be causing injuries.
 - d. most people must be using safety belts.
2. Because 45 percent of those killed in auto accidents were not wearing safety belts, you can conclude that
 - a. nearly everyone wears safety belts now.
 - b. only careless drivers do not wear safety belts.
 - c. the cost of installing safety belts has been wasted.
 - d. many people do not wear safety belts.
3. The campaign for safety belts is supported by
 - a. insurance companies only.
 - b. all licensed motorists.
 - c. safety organizations only.
 - d. safety organizations and the media.
4. Underline the sentence that supports the conclusion that the lifesaving value of safety belts has been established.